

# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME JOB DESCRIPTION

#### I. Position Information

Post Title: National Humanitarian Affairs Officer

Agency: UNOCHA Grade: NOB

Type of Contract: Fixed Term
Department: Field Unit
Duty Station: Mekele

Duration: Initially for one year Closing Date for Application: 13 April 2017

# **II. Organizational Context**

The Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) continues to support the office of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), the Ethiopian Humanitarian Country Team (EHCT) and relevant government counterparts in facilitating predictable, accountable and result-based humanitarian coordination in Ethiopia. The aim is to strengthen the coordination capacity of the government through the cluster approach in order to be able to effectively respond to quick onset and deteriorating humanitarian crises. Since the cluster approach was rolled-out in Ethiopia in 2007, significant efforts have been made to empower federal and regional counterparts to take leadership in coordinating humanitarian activities. OCHA supports humanitarian coordination efforts both at the Federal and regional levels through six permanent based sub-offices in three multi hazards prone regions and the Addis office through regular and predictable field monitoring missions involving National Humanitarian Affairs Officers.

OCHA Ethiopia recognizes the need to keep its field offices fully operational in fulfillment of its mandate to ensure effective and predictable protection of and assistance to the most vulnerable populations through principled and hands-on field level coordination of humanitarian actions. In this regard, the office is recruiting a full-time National Humanitarian Affairs Officer (NHAO) to be based in Mekele with the relevant competences to support the Field Coordination Unit (FCU) in monitoring and having oversight responsibility for the facilitation of humanitarian coordination in Tigray Region. The incumbent will also support the FCU to fulfill OCHA's roles in Protection and Disaster Risk Management as defined by OCHA's policy procedures and guidelines on these themes.

### III. Functions / Key Results Expected

# **Summary of key functions:**

Within the limits and delegated responsibilities, the Humanitarian Affairs Officer will be responsible for facilitating coordination in his/her designated areas of assignment in Tigray Region on behalf of OCHA and the HC. He/She will work under the overall supervision of OCHA's Head and Deputy Head of Office and be directly supervised by the Head of the Field Coordination Unit. The incumbent will be based in Mekele and work closely with regional, zonal and woreda authorities in coordinating humanitarian actions and engendering a scalable suite of coordination amongst humanitarian agencies in Tigray Region.

#### **Specific duties include:**

- Spend one-third of his/her time visiting and monitoring current relief operations and traveling extensively in vulnerable crisis prone areas, obtaining information, assessing or monitoring either independently or jointly with relevant stakeholders.
- Liaise closely with regional and zonal government officials and humanitarian counterparts in

- coordination of humanitarian program cycle in his/her area of assignment (needs assessment and analysis, joint planning, response and monitoring).
- Facilitate and undertake joint assessments of vulnerability to emergencies and disasters in insecure and other crisis-prone areas in Tigray.
- Work closely and consistently with the regional authorities, UN agencies, NGOs and other partners as appropriate and as required to ensure functional, accountable, predictable and scalable suite of coordination systems in designated areas of assignment.
- Facilitate the establishment and strengthening of effective sectoral task forces in the designated region with relevant regional and zonal line bureaus taking leadership and supporting humanitarian cluster leads to assume their respective cluster leadership roles.
- Work closely with relevant regional officials, UN and NGO counterparts to monitor, analyze and report on humanitarian development, emergency or relief management in assigned areas.
- Work with regional counterparts to strengthen or establish the appropriate disaster or emergency preparedness tools and activate ad-hoc coordination mechanisms to respond in a more timely and predictable manner in the event of quick onset or deteriorating emergencies
- Maintain a close working relationship in the field with regional, zonal and woreda
  government officials especially the Regional Bureau of Disaster Preparedness, civic and nongovernmental aid organization, UN agencies and the Red Cross Movement in order to
  establish a cooperative network for the exchange of humanitarian information.
- Work with regional counterparts to enhance community participation, including but not limited to facilitating the creation of a platform for effective involvement of local NGOs and CBOs in various humanitarian program cycles.
- Work with other humanitarian actors to identify gaps in the capacity of regional government humanitarian coordination apparatus and endeavor to marshal resources locally to address those gaps
- Visit and routinely monitor projects supported by the Humanitarian Response Fund (HRF) in designated regions of assignment and report to OCHA management on the status of those projects
- Participate in early recovery and development forums to ensure that regional humanitarian concerns are integrated and addressed by development tools such as UNDAF and PASDEP.
- Work closely with and support the regional early warning system in monitoring and reporting on hazards and its impact on communities in designated regions of assignment.
- Organize and facilitate OCHA and humanitarian donors' field missions to his/her designated area of assignment, including organizing appropriate briefs on humanitarian situations and facilitate local field travel.
- Work with OCHA Information Management Unit and partners to enhance information management by ensuring that information products such as zonal profiles, 3Ws, contact list and briefing packs are in place for his/her area of assignment and updated regularly.
- Work with humanitarian counterparts to ensure that cross-cutting issues such as gender and protection are embedded more thoroughly in the humanitarian program cycle in his/her assigned area.
- Promote the dissemination and understanding of OCHA's mandate, the humanitarian principles and humanitarian code of conduct amongst partners in assigned areas.
- Perform other duties as may be required by the Head or the Deputy Head of OCHA

# **IV. Impact of Results**

The OCHA Country Office has determined, based on the humanitarian need in the designated region that the function of the HAO is crucial and significantly contributes to improved coordination in identifying humanitarian gaps and responding to the needs of affected populations.

#### V. Competencies

# **Corporate Competencies:**

- Demonstrates commitment to UNOCHA's mission, vision, values
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race and nationality sensitivity and adaptability

# **Functional competencies**:

- Development and operational effectiveness
- Demonstrates considerable breadth of knowledge and flexibility
- Ability to analyze, explain and document the wider context and nature of each situation and develop recommendations for appropriate action for submission to the OCHA Head of Office and the Humanitarian Coordinator
- Leadership and self-management
- Integrity
- Client orientation

VI. Recruitment Qualifications	
Education:	• Advanced university degree (Master's degree) in political science, social science, public administration, international studies, economics or related area.
Experience:	<ul> <li>Minimum 2 years of progressively responsible and relevant professional experience in humanitarian affairs, emergency preparedness, rehabilitation and development, with significant field experience in complex emergencies, including humanitarian emergency efforts</li> <li>UN or NGO experience required</li> <li>Proven ability to work in an inter-agency environment and experience in working with government officials and technical staff in a cooperative manner is essential</li> <li>Field experience in the Horn of Africa and Ethiopia would be an advantage</li> <li>Availability for travel in country</li> <li>Cultural sensitivity and diplomatic skills essential</li> <li>Ability to build and lead a field team under difficult and insecure conditions is important.</li> </ul>
Language Requirements:	• Fluency in English and languages of the region (oral and written), is required. Being able to interpret/translate relevant communications, offices' reports and/or documents from local language into English is a requirement

Interested applicants must submit their CVs, letter of motivation and supporting documents to:

**UNOCHA Ethiopia** 

**Administration/ Finance Section** 

P.O. Box 60252

Addis-Ababa

Electronic applications can be sent to: dino@un.org
Only short listed candidates will be contacted